

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING GROWTH FACTOR PROTEINS**

The present invention provides a novel growth factor polynucleotide, growth factor polypeptide, gene delivery vehicles comprising and/or expressing the growth factor polynucleotide, antibodies and fragments capable of specifically binding to the growth factor polypeptide, receptors of the growth factor polypeptide, modulators of the growth factor activity, and modulators of growth factor expression. Also provided by the invention are host cells and transgenic organisms comprising the gene delivery vehicle of the present invention. Also provided by the invention are computer readable media containing the polynucleotide or polypeptide sequences of the present invention. Further provided are methods of using these compositions for diagnosis and treatment of growth factor associated diseases.